SIXTEENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Church of the Covenant,

PHILADELPHIA.

PRESENTED TO THE CONGREGATION,

MAY, 1873,

BY

THE RECTOR.

PHILADELPHIA:
HENRY B. ASHMEAD, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,
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1873.

☞ The pages of these Annual Reports are printed continuously, so that those who wish to preserve a Complete History of the Church of the Covenant, may have them bound together in book form.

VESTRY.

The following named gentlemen compose the Vestry of the Church of the Covenant, elected on Easter Monday, April 14, 1873.

JOHN P. RHOADS,
Rector's Warden.

JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK,
Accounting Warden.

ALEXANDER KIRKPATRICK,
Secretary.

GEORGE BOYD,
Treasurer of Benevolent Fund.

ROBERT REED,
PAUL G. OLIVER,
JOHN TANGUY,
CHARLES G. SOWER,
DR. WILLIAM GOODELL,
JAMES C. ALLEN,
WILLIAM SCOTT,
HENRY N. WILLIAMS.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE VESTRY.

COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.

THE RECTOR, *ex officio.*
JOHN P. RHOADS,
JAMES C. ALLEN.

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

ALEXANDER KIRKPATRICK,
JOHN TANGUY,
GEORGE BOYD.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

CHARLES G. SOWER,
ROBERT REED,
HENRY N. WILLIAMS.

LAY DEPUTIES.

JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK,
JOHN P. RHOADS,
JAMES C. ALLEN.

SEXTON.

ROBERT SLOAN.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

MARRIAGES.

I officiated at *five* during the year.

BAPTISMS.

I baptized *two* adults and *nine* infants; the Rev. Dr. Butler baptized *two* adults and *three* infants; and the Rev. Mr. Burk baptized *one* infant, making a total of *four* adult baptisms, and *thirteen* infant baptisms.

CONFIRMATIONS.

On Sunday evening, October 6th, 1872, the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the diocese confirmed *twelve* persons, as follows:

Willet L. Boyd,	Matilda B. Jackson,
Wm. J. Dunlap,	Levina Anderson,
Robert Outhwaite,	Emily M. Hall,
Mrs. Caroline C. Sawtell,	Rebecca J. Moore,
Mary E. Sawtell,	Josephine A. Natt,
Isabella E. Henderson,	Katie L. Atkinson.

On Wednesday evening, April 30th, 1873, by the same, *nine* persons, as follows:

Marshall T. Meigs,	Mrs. Margaret MacTurk,
Thomas Sheridan,	Mrs. Ellen Watson,
Hugh Balentine,	Mrs. Catharine Fisher,
Mrs. Jane Martin,	Kate Jackson,

Ada Hemphill.

On the 29th day of March, 1872, the following named persons were confirmed by Bishop Stevens, in Grace Church, as candidates from the Church of the Covenant, their names were inadvertently omitted from the last year's report:

Mrs. Eliza Black,	Mrs. Martha S. Lutz,
Mrs. Magdalena Krimell,	Mrs. Emma Fisher.

COMMUNICANTS.

There have been added to our number of Communicants, by confirmation twenty-five, by letter five; removed by death two, making the present number *four hundred and twenty-three*, provided the number *four hundred*, last reported was correct. The list published five

years ago was quite imperfect, owing to the fact that then I had just taken charge of the Church, and being unacquainted with the great majority of the members, I could not erase the names of those who had removed from us. I desire (D.V.) to publish in the next report a revised and corrected list of the names of the Communicants. I shall take it as a favor if those who are accustomed to commune with us, and who desire to be considered as Communicants of the Church of the Covenant, but with whom I am not personally acquainted, will be kind enough to send me their names.

FUNERALS.

Of these there have been *seven* of adults and *four* of children.

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

Meetings of the Association have been held as usual. The numbers on the roll are 6 honorary, 11 contributing, and 38 active members.

In the Sunday-school we have

1 Superintendent,
1 Librarian,
1 Assistant Librarian.
6 Male Teachers,
25 Female Teachers,
52 Boys in Intermediate School,
107 Girls " "
70 In Primary Department,
20 In Male Bible Classes,
39 In Female Bible Classes.

Making a total of 34 officers and teachers, and 288 scholars, divided into 9 male classes, 16 female, 2 male and 2 female Bible classes, and the Primary Department.

December 27th, 1872, a festival was given to the school, and addresses delivered by Rev. John J. Joyce, Mr. A. Martin, and the Rector. On the Sunday following, the usual Christmas service was held in the Church, and books awarded to

15 scholars for bringing in 21 new scholars; to 5 scholars for being present at every session of the school; and to 10 scholars for having attended the most frequently.

The following account of the anniversary was written by one of the scholars:

The Sixteenth Anniversary of the Sunday-schools was held January 19th. The exercises opened with an anthem, sung by the choir of the Church. The Sunday-school then sang the hymn, "Of such is the Kingdon." After which the Rector offered a prayer, and read a portion of Scripture, from the First Corinthians. This was followed by a hymn, sung by the Infant School. The Sunday-school then sang the hymn, "Pearl of the Ocean." This was followed with an address by the Rector, from the text, "And the greatest of these is charity." 1 Cor. xiii. 13. After which the Sunday-school sang the hymn, "The Sure Foundation." This was followed by the "Missionary Offerings." Each class in turn, sending up its offering, accompanied by a bouquet of flowers. These bouquets were arranged around a shield, upon which was inscribed the text for the year, "The greatest of these is charity." The flowers formed a beautiful border, and set off the shield to its greatest advantage. Some of the

classes contributed emblems, among which was particularly noticeable a beautiful cross, formed of white flowers, presented by the Infant School. Also, several beautiful flags, with different inscriptions, which presented a pleasing appearance. The offerings amounted to $443.24, showing a desire on the part of the scholars to do good to others by their liberal contributions. After the missionary offerings had been taken up, the Sunday-school sang the hymn, "The Heaven above." By this time the ninth article upon the programme, which had been looked forward to with eager anticipation by the scholars, was reached—the "Distribution of Books." After this was over, the Sunday-school sang the hymn, "Jesus is mighty to save," and the Doxology. The Rector then pronounced the benediction, which closed one of the most pleasant occasions that has ever taken place in the history of the Sunday-school. The chancel of the Church was beautifully decorated. Over the pulpit was an arch, containing the word "Charity," and over one of the reading desks was the word "Faith," and over the other the word "Hope." The whole was surmounted with a gas-jet, in the form of a star, which, at the proper moment, was lit up, presenting a beautiful and interesting sight. The singing, which was under the direction of Mr. George North, was re-

markably good throughout; the scholars having had little time to practice, but in that little time they did wonders, and reflect much credit upon the efforts of their able teacher. Mr. Gropengeiser presided at the organ, in his usual graceful manner, and contributed much to the success of the anniversary. A SCHOLAR.

The International Series of Uniform Lessons has been introduced into the school, and is being studied with much interest, and we trust with profit to all. The good seed is being scattered, and the Lord will make it bear fruit in his own good time. The Young People's Association is in successful operation, and from the proceeds of an entertainment given by them, 125 new volumes have been added to the library.

Treasurer's Report.

RECEIPTS.

To cash,	dues from members, . . .	$46 00
"	Stereopticon Exhibition, . .	75 10
"	Christmas Festival, . . .	29 86
"	Collection in Church, . .	84 04
"	for Anniversary expenses, Miss B.	4 00
"	Interest on deposits, . . .	5 23
"	Anniversary offerings of the S. S.,	443 24
		$687 47

PAYMENTS.

By cash	Stereopticon Exhibition, . .	$25 00
"	Christmas Festival, . . .	10 00
"	Anniversary expenses, . .	55 31
"	Chorister, ...	25 00
"	Books and Periodicals, on acct.,	99 00
"	Missionary Work of American Sunday-School Union, . .	60 00
"	Ground-rent of Church, . .	20 00
"	Indian Hope, ...	50 00
"	Ladies' Missionary Society, .	20 00
"	Zenana Mission, . . .	25 00
"	Kansas, per Bishop Vail, . . .	50 00
"	Foreign Missions, . . .	50 00
"	American Church Missionary Society, ...	30 00
"	City Missions, ...	26 47
"	Evangelical Educational Society,	50 00
"	Seamen's Mission, Philadelphia,	25 00
"	The Indians, per Rev. Mr. Cooke,	17 00
"	Sunday-school at Illyria, O., .	25 00
	Balance cash in hand, .	24 69
		$687 47

HENRY N. WILLIAMS,
Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DORCAS SOCIETY.

OFFICERS.

President, Mrs. C. E. Murray.
Vice-President, Mrs. George Boyd.
Treasurer, Miss Amelia C. Bisbing.
Secretary, Miss R. B. Richards.

We have had twelve meetings, including the annual meeting, which occurred November 6th, 1872. The average attendance was five members.

We distributed 28¼ yards of muslin; 16 yards alpaca; 16 yards of calico; 23 yards of Canton flannel. We feel thankful to have been the means of doing this much good; but had our resources been greater we could have done much more.

The Branch Dorcas Society held its meetings at the usual time and place. Sixteen ladies were very generally in attendance.

Thirty-two articles of clothing were completed.

We forwarded a box of clothing and comforts for the Indian missionary's assistant and his family, at the White Earth Reservation, Minnesota, valued at $90 27.

R. B. Richards,
Secretary.

Miss A. C. Bisbing, *Treasurer, in account with the Dorcas Society of the Church of the Covenant.*

Dr.

To balance in the Treasury, as per last report, ...	$14 07
" Donations, ...	22 35
" Subscriptions, ...	23 00
" Church Collection, (in part), . .	25 11
" Appropriation of S. S. Association to Ladies' Missionary Society, . .	20 00
	$104 53

Cr.

By cash paid for materials, as per bill, .	$55 71
" " for shoes, as per bill, . .	20 00
" " for stockings, . . .	4 42
" " for suit of clothes, . .	18 50
" " Sundries, ...	90
" " Freight on box for Missionary,	5 00
	$104 53

May 1*st*, 1873.

REPORT OF THE SEWING-SCHOOL.

OFFICERS.

Miss Gertrude A. Clarkson, *Superintendent.*
Miss Louisa L. Birch, *Treasurer.*
Miss Mary A. Simon, *Secretary.*

On the 2d of November, 1872, the school was opened with 35 scholars, and continued to meet every Saturday afternoon, until April 26th, 1873; closing with 16 teachers and 92 scholars.

During the session the scholars have made 58 garments, which were given to such as earned them by industry and good conduct.

The closing exercises of the school took place on Saturday afternoon, April 26th, and consisted of singing by the scholars, and an address by the Rector. Several prizes were distributed to the scholars for proficiency in sewing, and for punctual attendance. At the conclusion of the religious exercises the school adjourned to one of the side rooms, where quite an inviting feast had been prepared for them; and we feel assured that if the generous friends who so kindly enabled us to provide this entertainment for the "little ones" could have been present, to have seen how thoroughly the children enjoyed it, they would have felt abundantly rewarded.

Mary A. Simon,
Secretary.

MISS LOUISA S. BIRCH, *Treasurer, in account with the Sewing-School of the Church of the Covenant.*

[NOTE.—The Church report of last year omitted the account given by the Treasurer of the Sewing-School, of $5.67 spent for materials for the finishing of quilts made by the school. This deducted from the balance on hand at the close of the previous year, gives the amount in the Treasury, at the opening of this session, $6.53.]

DR.

To balance in hand, ...	$6 53
" Donations, ...	35 75
" Sundries, ...	43
" Church Collection, (in part,) . .	10 00
" Teachers' Subscriptions, . . .	7 00
	$59 71

CR.

By cash paid for supplies for the school,	$18 46
" paid expenses of the Festival, .	30 95
" balance in Treasurer's hands, .	10 30
	$59 71

May 1*st*, 1873.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

RECEIPTS.

From Collections, ...	$365 87

PAYMENTS.

To Evangelical Educational Society, .	$72 60
" Dorcas and Sewing Societies, . .	35 11
" Episcopal Hospital, ...	174 12
" Sunday-school Association, . .	84 04
	$365 87

ABSTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTING WARDEN,

Made to the Vestry, dated the 1st of March, 1873.

The receipts and payments for the year ending March 1, 1873, were as follows:

General Fund.

RECEIPTS.

From Pew Rents, . .	$4,749 75	
Less discount allowed,	201 06	
		$4,548 69
" Collections, ...		154 40
" Collections and Donations to make up last year's deficiency,		593 45
" Interest on Deposits, . .		4 44
Total Receipts, . .		$5,300 98

EXPENDITURES.

Salary of Rector, ...	$2,500 00
Supplies for Pulpit during the Rector's illness, ...	315 00
Salary of Sexton, ...	600 00
Music, Organist, Singers, &c., . .	925 00
Fuel, ...	193 85
Repairs to Church Building, &c., .	125 25
Carried forward, .	$4,659 10

Brought forward, .	$4,659 10
Gas, ...	102 54
Insurance on Building, Furniture and Organ, ...	85 00
Episcopal and Convention Fund, .	75 00
Printing and Advertising, . . .	107 87
Water Rent, ...	5 00
Annual Subscription to Philadelphia Library Company, ...	5 00
Incidental Expenses, ...	80 02
Total Expenditures, . . .	5,119 53
Total Receipts, ...	$5,300 98
Total Expenditures, ...	5,119 53
Excess of Receipts over Expenditures,	$181 45

The Balance due the Accounting Warden by this Account on the 1st of March, 1872, was, . .	$1,229 55	
Paid as above, during the year, ...	5,119 53	
		$6,349 08
Received as above, during the year, .		5,300 98
Leaving a Balance due the Accounting Warden at this date, March 1, 1873, of		$1,048 10

Sinking Fund.

At the last report the amount of this Fund on hand was, ...	$1,166 07
Paid during the year for Interest, .	60 00
Leaving the Amount now on hand, .	$1,106 07

Ground-Rent Fund.

RECEIPTS.

Subscriptions and Donations as per Pew Rent Receipts, ...		$673 70

EXPENDITURES.

Twelve months' Ground-rent, 100 feet, @ $8 50, . .	$850 00	
Premium on Silver, . .	64 40	
		914 40
Deficiency, ...		$240 70

Principal of the Ground-Rent.

The Principal of the Ground-Rent is in three separate parts, namely,

20 feet of ground, at $141 66⅔ per foot,	$2,833 33
40 " " " "	5,666 67
40 " " " "	5,666 67
Total, ...	$14,166 67

Towards the payment of this, a donation has been received of Twenty dollars; and a promise of Five hundred dollars from a member of the congregation, to complete the payment of any one of the above three amounts.

JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK,
Accounting Warden.

Report of the Finance Committee.

The undersigned, Committee on Finance, have examined the Books and Vouchers of the Accounting Warden, and find the above balances to be correct.

ROBERT REED,
CH. G. SOWER, } *Committee.*

April 10, 1873.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts as exhibited in the Accounting Warden's Report, for the General Fund, ...	$5,300 98
For the Ground-Rent Fund, . .	673 70
For the Principal of the Ground-Rent,	20 00
Receipts of the Sunday-school Association, . . .	603 43
" " Communion Fund, .	263 68
" " Benevolent Fund, .	365 87
" " Dorcas Society, . .	45 35
" " Sewing School, . .	43 18
Total, ...	$7,316 19

C. E. M.

CONCLUSION.

In presenting the Sixteenth Annual Report to the Congregation of the Church of the Covenant, I would gratefully acknowledge the great mercy of God which has so completely restored my health and strength, and permitted me thus for the fifth time to address you. Short and uncertain as our term of days is, no yearly epoch should be permitted to pass without grateful remembrance of the past, and thoughtful reflection upon the future. The financial condition of the Church is in every way encouraging, the receipts during the last year having been more than sufficient to meet the current expenses. The only obstacle in the way of the complete financial prosperity of the Church is the annual ground-rent; as long as this remains it cannot but cripple the energies of the Church, and interfere with its benevolent operations. I have, however, so frequently alluded to this in former reports, that I shall dismiss the subject with the mention of the fact that a member of the congregation has very generously offered to contribute $500 towards the liquidation of the principal of the smallest ground-rent, ($2833 33,) provided the congregation will secure the balance, and with the expression of the satisfaction it would afford me if the congregation would

make some earnest effort to avail themselves of this liberal offer.

We bless and magnify God's Holy Name that He has not left Himself and us without evidence that His word has not returned to Him void. May we all feel encouraged to labor more earnestly in the Lord's vineyard, knowing that in due season we shall reap if we faint not. In thus rendering an account of my stewardship to those over whom the Holy Ghost has made me overseer, I would call upon myself and them seriously to remember the higher account which we must all give of ourselves at the judgment seat of Christ. May God help us, and may we under God, help each other to anticipate that judgment; then will our souls be animated and invigorated to all holy living, to all Christian God-like aspiration by the knowledge that our work is nothing, that at the best we are but unprofitable servants, and that Christ is all and in all; and when at length the voice at evening says "Call the laborers and give them their hire," we shall receive, not of debt but of grace, the blessedness of those servants, who faithful here in a few things, shall enter there into the joy of their Lord. Affectionately,

Your Friend and Pastor,

CHARLES E. MURRAY.